

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 00297 171635Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CA-01 /018 W

-----031830 180038Z/13

R 171700Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5287

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FOR ALAN GISE FROM JOE MCLEAN, CHIEF OF SECTION AI FOR HARRY

QUINN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PN(BHARATH, PATRICIA BLACK)

SUBJECT: EMBASSY PROTEST TO GOVT OF PANAMA

REF: STATE 3734 AND PREVIOUS

1. PROTEST SUGGESTED IN 77 STATE 242437 WAS NOT FILED. DETENTION FOR IMMIGRATION VIOLATION IS SENSITIVE SUBJECT AS WE RECEIVE FREQUENT COMPLAINS ABOUT VISA REFUSALS OR DENIALS OF AD-MISSION TO U.S. NEITHER WOULD THE COMPLAINT HAVE BEEN TIMELY. PANAMANIAN IMMIGRATION IS UNDER CONTROL OF NATIONAL GUARD G-2 (MILITARY INTELLIGENCE) AND THIS OFFICE PROVIDED FULL INFORMAL REPORT AND WILL DO SO IF OTHER INCIDENTS OCCUR. IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROVIDE NO INFORMATION ANYONE WITHOUT NATIONAL GUARD APPROVAL.

2. POST FEELS THAT PROTEST WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IN DRUG ARRESTS, WHEN ACCESS IS DELAYED UNTIL INTERROGATION IS COMPLETED. CONSULAR OFFICER IS NORMALLY NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY OF ARREST BY DEA, BUT CONSULAR ACCESS IS ROUTINELY DELAYED FIVE WORKING DAYS AND OCCASIONALLY AS MUCH AS TEN WORKING DAYS DESPITE DAILY REQUESTS FOR VISITATION RIGHTS. DEPARTMENTAL FILES WILL SHOW THAT

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THIS HAS BEEN THE PRACTICE SINCE THE EARLY 1970'S WHEN G-2 BEGAN TO ASSUME ACTIVE ROLE IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT.

3. DEPARTMENTAL FILES WILL ALSO SHOW THAT THIS PRACTICE WAS ONE OF SUBJECTS OF NUMEROUS NOTES OF PROTEST FILED DURING PERIOD 1970-73 AND THAT NOTES ROUTINELY WENT UNANSWERED. POST HAS COPY OF REPLY TO ACCESS PROTEST

FILED BY COLOMBIAN EMBASSY PANAMA IN WHICH GOP STATES  
THAT THEY ARE NOT ALWAYS ABLE TO ADHERE TO VIENNA CONVENTION  
WHEN THEY ARE TRYING TO BREAK UP DRUG CONSPIRACY AIMING  
TO INTROUDCE LARGE QUANTITIES OF DRUGS IN THE UNITED STATES.  
THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY FIND IT AMBIVALENT FOR USG TO ALSO  
PROTEST SUCH PRACTICES SO WE SUGGEST INFORMAL NOTIFICATION  
THAT PROTEST WILL AGAIN BE FILED IF ACCESS DELAYED. WE  
ALSO SUGGEST THAT PROTEST BE DISCUSSED WITH AMCIT WHO IS  
UNDER DENTENTION. WHEN SUBJECT HAS BEEN RAISED, DETAINEES  
WERE OPPOSED TO PROTEST AS THEY FEAR THAT 8-MONTH SENTENCE  
NORMALLY IMPOSED FOR SUCH CASES WOULD BE RAISED TO 5-8 YEAR  
SENTENCE REQUIRED BY PANAMANIAN LAW FOR INTERNATIONAL  
DRUG TRAFFICKING.

JORDEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 jan 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PANAMA00297  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780025-0788  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PANAMA  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** e5cccf2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 3734  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3762807  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EMBASSY PROTEST TO GOVT OF PANAMA  
**TAGS:** CASC, PDIP, PN, US, (BHARATH, PATRICIA BLACK)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e5cccf2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014